

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A sales activity management system for selling an information processing apparatus from an apparatus manufacturer to a user, and selling information contents available at the information processing apparatus from an information provider to the user, said activity management system comprising:

an information provision management terminal device for collecting content sales information according to sale of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus and compensation information according to a difference between manufacturer's desired selling price and actual selling price of said information processing apparatus; and

a sales activity management apparatus for setting an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacturer based upon ~~at least said content sales~~ information inputted from said information provision management terminal device ~~as compensation for difference between manufacturer's desired selling price and actual selling price of said information processing apparatus.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that a license agreement is made with respect to sales of said information processing apparatus and information contents between said apparatus manufacturer and information provider.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 31, characterized in that a license agreement is made with respect to sales of the essential parts, information processing apparatus and information contents among said part manufacturer, apparatus manufacturer, and information provider.

7. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 29, characterized in that said information provider is a broadcasting service provider for providing charged information contents to said user, and collecting a reception charge from the user.

8. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 29, characterized in that said information provider is a communication service provider that collects a base charge and an actual telephone call charge from the user.

9. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 29, characterized in that said information provider is an information medium sales provider that provides an information medium having information contents recorded therein to said user, and collects a payment of a product from the user.

10. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 31, characterized in that said apparatus manufacture management terminal device, information provision management terminal device and sales activity management apparatus are connected to each other by communication means, integrally managing delivery information concerning the number of deliveries for said essential parts, sales information concerning the sales quantity of said information processing apparatus and use information concerning a use quantity of said information contents.

11. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system as claimed in claim 29, characterized in that Internet, telephone lines, satellite lines or dedicated communication line is used for said communication means.

12. (Currently Amended) A sales activity management apparatus for managing businesses for selling an information processing apparatus from an apparatus manufacturer to a user, and selling available information contents at the information processing apparatus from an information provider to the user, said apparatus comprising:

input means for inputting from a content provision terminal device, content sale information according to sales of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus and compensation information according to a difference between manufacturer's desired selling price and actual selling price of said information processing apparatus;

storage means for storing said content sales information and said compensation information that have been inputted by said input means; and

management control means for setting an amount of money remitted to said apparatus manufacturer, based upon ~~at least said content sales~~ the information that has been stored in said storage means ~~as compensation for difference between manufacturer's desired selling price and actual selling price of said information processing apparatus.~~

13. (Original) A sales activity management apparatus as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that said management control means sets the sales price of said information processing apparatus according to an amount of money for the charge collected from said user.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that said management control means sets the sales price of said essential parts according to an amount of money for the charge collected from said user.

16. (Currently Amended) A sales activity management method for selling an information processing apparatus from an apparatus manufacturer to a user, and selling information contents available at the information processing apparatus from the information provider to the user, comprising the steps of:

managing manufacture of said information processing apparatus, and selling said information processing apparatus to a user at the sales price of said apparatus manufacturer;

providing available information contents at said information processing apparatus, and then, collecting a charge based upon at least content sale information according to sales of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus; and

setting an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacturer based at least upon said content sales information and as compensation information according to a ~~for~~ difference between manufacturer's desired selling price and actual selling price of said information processing apparatus.

17. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that a license agreement is made with respect to sales of essential parts, an information processing apparatus and information contents among the part manufacturer for manufacturing essential parts of said information processing apparatus, said apparatus manufacturer and information provider.

18. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that essential parts to be incorporated in said information processing apparatus are supplied from a part manufacturer to said apparatus manufacturer.

19. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said management control means sets the sales price of said essential parts according to an amount of money collected from said user.

20. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that said information provider is a broadcast service provider that provides charged information contents to said user, and collects a reception charge from the user.

21. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that said information provider is a communication service provider that collects a base charge and an actual telephone call charge from the user.

22. (Original) A sales activity management method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that said information provider is an information medium sales provider that manufactures and sells an information medium having information contents recorded therein to said user, and collects a payment of a product from the user.

23-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an apparatus manufacture management terminal device for accepting sales information on said information processing apparatus, and
wherein a sales activity management apparatus sets an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacturer based upon said sales information inputted from said apparatus manufacture management terminal device.

28. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a part manufacture management terminal device for accepting part delivery information on parts of said information processing apparatus, and
wherein a sales activity management apparatus sets an amount of money to be remitted to said part manufacturer based upon said part delivery information inputted from said part manufacture management terminal device.

29. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said input means inputs sales information concerning sales quantity of said information processing apparatus from an apparatus manufacture management terminal device;

said storage means stores the sales information on information processing apparatus; and

said management control means sets an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacturer based upon said sales information.

30. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein essential parts of said information processing apparatus are manufactured by a part manufacturer;

said input means inputs part delivery information concerning part delivery quantity of said information processing apparatus, from a part manufacture management terminal device;

said storage means stores said part delivery information on information processing apparatus; and

said management control means set an amount of money to be remitted to said part manufacture based upon said part delivery information.

31. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said use information is comprised of at least the information of charge or sales for information contents provided to a user available at said information processing apparatus.

32. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said management control means sets an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacture based upon a payment limit according to said use information and said sales information.

33. (Previously Presented) A sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said management control means does not set an amount of money to be remitted to said apparatus manufacture until a charge for said information contents is collected.

34. (Previously Presented) The sales activity management system according to claim 1, wherein said information provision management terminal collects content use information according to use of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus, and wherein said sales activity management apparatus sets an amount of money also based upon said content use information.

35. (Previously Presented) The sales activity management apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said input means inputs content use information according to use of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus, and wherein said management control means sets an amount of money also based upon said content use information.

36. (Previously Presented) The sales activity management method according to claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

providing content use information according to use of said information contents provided to said user available at said information processing apparatus; and

setting an amount of money also based upon said content use information.